MAINE FARMER
AND JOURNAL OF THE USEFUL ARTS.

BY WILLIAM NOYES & CO.] "OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR BROTHER MAN." [E. HOLMES, EDITOR.

VOL. II. WINTHROP, (MAINE,) FRIDAY, JULY 4, 1834. NO. 25.

THE MAINE FARMER

IS ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING.

TERMS.—Price $2 per annum if paid in advance. $2,50 if payment is delayed beyond the year.

No paper will be discontinued at any time, without payment of all arrearages and for the volume which shall then have been commenced, unless at the pleasure of the publishers.

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AGRICULTURAL.

From the Genesee Farmer.

RUTA BAGA AND MANGEL WURTZEL.

As I have cultivated these roots more or less every season for the last twenty years, I suppose a short account of my practice may be acceptable to such as are now commencing.

Three times ploughing, with a harrowing and rolling after each, puts the ground in complete order to receive the seed of the ruta baga, which should be sown immediately after the last ploughing—the longer time the ground lays between each ploughing the better, so that the grass and weeds don't grow large, say not less than a month.

The time of sowing may vary according to circumstances and convenience—any time from the first to the end of the seventh month (July) will do for ruta baga in this latitude. If I wanted the roots for table use I should not think of sowing before the middle of the month—if for cattle, it might do to sow the beginning; but I may remark that most of the failures I have noticed have been in consequence of too early sowing on land not well prepared; for, though turnips do not require a very rich soil, it should be perfectly mellow, and every particle of grass or perennial weeds ought to be entirely dead before the seed is sown. Thus the hoeing and weeding is performed with far less labor than would otherwise be required, and the roots will grow quick—this they must do to be sound and well flavored.

I have usually put on about six or eight two horse loads of dung previous to the first or second ploughing, as most convenient. This, however, is not necessary if the ground is naturally rich, or has been in grass for some time.

The method of sowing in rows is the best, in my opinion. I have tried various distances for the rows from two to four feet—the former is decidedly too close, and the latter distance may be thought too wide; but I have found the bulk of crop greater on four feet space than on two feet—at any rate I think it is a positive loss of labor to sow closer than three feet. This leaves room for a cultivator to pass between the rows. The plants should be thinned so as to leave only one in a foot; it is important that this should be done as soon as the plants are large enough to resist the attacks of the turnip fly. The crop will be much diminished if this is not attended to, especially when vegetation is rapid. One pound of seed is amply sufficient for an acre if sown in rows—if broad cast, the same or rather less will suffice, on account of the increased difficulty of hoeing and thinning.

The common English turnip I consider but a very poor root to cultivate for cattle; but if managed as above directed for ruta baga, except to sow the seed two or three weeks later, very heavy crops could be raised; but I think mangel wurtzel is the most valuable root for cattle. It is a trifle more expensive to raise it—requires to be sown about a month earlier than ruta baga—is not so easily preserved through the winter, and requires rather a richer soil. On the other hand, it thrives best on soils too heavy for the turnip—the bulk of crop is greater—it can be sown to advantage after once ploughing, and is never eaten by insects as turnips are. Thus being a very certain crop, it received the name of root of scarcity, meaning, I suppose, that it never failed in times of general scarcity. Cattle, sheep, and hogs prefer it to any other root that I have ever seen after they become used to it. Two pounds of seed will suffice for an acre, in rows three or four feet apart. I have always been sensible of a loss of time and labor, when I have planted this crop closer than four feet by fifteen inches from one plant to another. It is a gross feeder, and I believe no soil can be too rich for it, but it will amply repay the labor bestowed upon it. I have raised them weighing twenty-five pounds each, and I believe there was one of these roots exhibited in London weighing 42 lbs.

Lastly, I may just say how I proceed with the work of sowing the seed, which, for each kind, does not vary much—having no drilling machine, I get a piece of plank or slab six feet long, more or less, according to the distance I intend to have the rows—saw out three blunt teeth, one at each end and one in the middle--put a long handle in the centre, and draw this thing over the ground cross ways of the last ploughing, letting one outside tooth go in the last marked row, thus making two rows every time. To expedite the sowing, I moisten the seed a little, and add a little lime or some white substance.—This makes it easy to see how thick I sow it, and enables me, by going at a quick step, to put in several acres in a day if required.

Owasco, 5 mo. 7, 1834. J. S.

From Hayward's Science of Agriculture.

ON HAYMAKING.

Having observed that in a season when there was no rain whatever, and the hay had been made with rapidity, and carted within a short time after it had been cut, that a greater quantity was destroyed and injured, by being overheated and burnt, than in a catching irregular season; that when hay had not heated in the stack, it was frequently mouldy; that as hay lost its native green color and approached a brown, it lost its nutritive qualities; and that altogether the making of hay, as usually conducted, was a most precarious and teasing operation; I determined on trying to arrange a system on some more regular and certain principles, in which I succeeded; and by adopting a certain and regular course of operations, was enabled to make my hay of a uniform good quality; and, let the weather be as it might, at a regular expense of labor. And considering such a process not only of importance,as it ensures a more perfect quality; but as it affords a more certain protection against the injuries usually consequent on the uncertainty of the weather, and overheating in the stack; and that it thus removes two great causes of anxiety, it may be well worth the public attention.

In the first place, as to the state of the weather, it generally happens at this season of the year that there are three or four dry days; therefore on beginning to cut the grass, as it is well known that during wet weather grass may be cut, and suffered to remain in the swath for several days without injury; and it being desirable, where hands are plenty, to have a good quantity, or so much as will complete a stack in a day, in the same state of forwardness; I should prefer beginning to cut during the rainy weather; however be this as it may, swards should not be opened but on a certain fine day; and when this is done the grass should be well shaken apart and equally spread over the ground. As soon as the upper surface is dry turn it well over; & in this operation great care should be taken to open and spread any cocks that may not have been divided in the first opening. This being done, commence raking into wind-rows, in time that the whole may be made into small cocks before night. *The second day these cocks must remain untouched; let the weather be wet or dry:* the third day, if the weather be certain and fine, throw the cocks open; but if the weather be wet or threatening, they may remain another day, or until the weather is certain to be fine for the day. The cocks should then be thrown, according to the crop, into beds of two or three rows; and after three or four hours exposure, turned over; and taking time to gather the whole into wind-rows and cocks before night, let this operation commence accordingly, *and none be left open:* the day after this, which in fine weather will be the fourth; *the*

cocks must again remain untouched, or not be opened, whether the weather be wet or dry.—On the fifth or next day, these cocks will only require to be opened for an hour or two, when they will be fit for the stack. The novelty of this mode consists only in suffering the hay to remain in the cock the second and third or alternate days; and at first sight it may appear that so much time in fine weather must be lost, but this is not the case. Whilst the hay remains in cocks, a slight fermentation, or what is termed sweating, will take place, and in consequence, after it has been opened on the third and fifth days, it will prove to be just as forward as if it had been worked every day. And the advantages resulting from this, are obviously the following; by shortening the time of open exposure, the color of the hay is more perfectly preserved, and consequently the quality; and the fermentations or sweatings which take place in the cocks, prove so much to have diminished that principle, or inclination to prevent its heating injuriously in the stack; and the whole operation of making, whether it takes four days or eight, requires three days labor only; and the hay being left in that state every night, in which it is the least possibly exposed to the injuries of the weather, and in which it may remain for a day or two in uncertain weather, without injurious exposure; much painful anxiety and useless attendance of laborers are obviated.

THE FARMER.

WINTHROP, FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 4, 1834.

NEW LOCALITY OF LIME.

We have received from Dr. BALDWIN, of Mt. Vernon, a number of specimens of lime stone, taken from several farms in his neighborhood. Most of them were taken from near the surface of the ground, and are of course somewhat weathered or decomposed by the action of the elements upon them.

They are of the variety called granular lime stone.

Part of the specimens were taken from the farm of Nath'l Groves in Vienna, at the North end of what is called Flying Pond. The specimens from this locality are of a blueish gray appearance, of a granular texture, and are intermixed with silicious matter and minute specks of a greenish dark substance, which is probably *oxide of Titanium*, though it is disseminated in such minute fragments that it is difficult to tell. Another portion of the specimens sent were from the farm of Mr John Gilbreth, on the East shore of flying pond. This is similar in its texture and color, but contains a considerable quantity of an arenaceous matter of a reddish color (probably Epidote.) The whole length of this pond is represented to be lined with this rock.

Specimens were also sent from Magurdy stream, in the Westerly part of Vienna, from land owned by Mr David Currier and Mr Lyman Whittier. These were much the best specimens—one of them is of a blueish gray variegated with white, granular and somewhat crystalline in its texture, the other was whiter and much more crystalline than the other.—This last is no doubt good limestone. It contains a portion of silicious matter, but not enough to hurt it.

Judging from the specimens sent, there will be found veins of good stone in that region; and there can certainly be no danger of loss in commencing operations immediately for the purpose of exploring and ascertaining the best situations to quarry and convert the stone to quicklime. All the rock from which these specimens were taken will undoubtedly yield lime sufficiently pure for agricultural purposes, and some of it for use in building, especially that on Magurdy stream.

There can certainly be but little risk in employing an experienced hand or two to examine and burn some of the lime; and we shall be much mistaken if it does not ultimately become a source of profit and utility to that section of the State and its vicinity. In regard to the form of a kiln for the purposes of burning—different operators have different shapes. The main objects should be—1st, To contain the greatest number of bushels or cubic feet in the most compact form—2d, To retain the heat the longest and in the most perfect manner. Some make them like a hogshead open at both ends, and the smaller end at the bottom.

The following communication from one who has had considerable experience in the business, may very materially assist those who do not wish to employ a regular workman at the business.

For the Maine Farmer.

LIME, KILNS, &c.

MR. EDITOR,—In your paper of the 20th ult. there is a call from Dr. Baldwin for information on the subject of lime and the mode of burning, &c. Having lime rock on my land of an inferior quality, I have been induced to make all the inquiries I could. I have obtained some information by visiting Thomaston quarries repeatedly, and have also employed two persons from that place to dig and burn on my own farm. I am, however, a novice, compared with those whose business it is to work at burning limestone. I will venture nevertheless to make a few remarks on the subject of lime and marble.

Marble is sound compact limestone, fine enough in the grain to bear a high polish. Grind or rub the stone as smooth as you can; take carbonate of iron, wet a woollen rag, dip it in the iron, and rub with that till it receives a polish. Burnt bones pulverized, make a very good polishing material.* The different colors of the rock will then show their real lustre. Lime is ascertained by dropping high or strong acids on the rock. Take aquafortis and drop into it a piece of the rock, and it will dissolve the lime—turn off the liquor, put water into the vessel, stir it and let it settle, turn off the water gently and the impurities of the rock will remain behind.

Limestone is either good or, what is called by the workmen, Bastard rock. In all quarries that I have seen, there are many acres of this Bastard rock to one of the pure. The direction of the layers or strata of all that I am acquainted with, is from N. East to S. West, or nearly so, and may be followed by a compass. Good rock is mostly lime with a portion of sandy or silicious matter, without any veins of impure rock. The veins are what distinguishes the bastard from the pure, in the most that I have seen in this part of the country.

Good rock is covered with a dark greasy mould—when this covering is removed, scrape it with some hard instrument, as a hoe, and it will appear white. In our kind of lime rock, the thick sheets or layers make the best lime, and the sounder the better, as there will be less outside when burned. When a heading, as it is called, is cut into the rock (which is expensive) the after digging is done with comparative ease. Casks for the lime will cost from 25 to 30 cents each. Lime, cask and all, cost when made, perhaps not more than 83 cents.

In order to build a kiln, a hill side is generally chosen. A hole is dug into it sufficiently large to build it in, which are of one, two, or three arches, according to the quantity which you wish to burn. The shape of the kiln may be a semicircle or nearly so, with the number of arches in proportion to the size. The rock is broken into suitable pieces to make the arches, and they are laid with them. When you have laid them, the rock is broken into pieces with a sledge hammer, from the size of a man's fist to that of his head, and thrown into the kiln with but little order. The kiln may be raised to any convenient height. Common granite is the best rock to make the sides of. In regard to the time required for burning, it usually takes about four days and nights to burn one large kiln. But I have had a kiln burnt sufficiently in half that time. The object of burning being to drive off the fixed air or carbonic acid, it is not usually burnt too fast. It must be made very hot, and when it is well burned the rock has a white heat, and the blaze is nearly white.

Wherever lime rock is found, it will be cheapest and safest to employ an experienced workman in manufacturing it into quick lime. Soft wood, such as hemlock, spruce, and such kinds as make the quickest and hottest fires and the least ashes. No man need be deceived in regard to lime rock, for a piece may be burned in a blacksmith's forge and its quality ascertained in that way; but acids are the best test. W.

* The white oxide of Zinc is also used under the name of Tutty. The last polish is sometimes put on by the ashes of burnt straw.—ED.

WEATHER. The weather for most part of the time since the warm days of April has been cold and cloudy. We have had but very little bright and warm sun this spring. Corn is backward, but wheat and other grain looks exceedingly promising. Cherries are at present abundant upon the trees, and there is a great show of apples generally.

Wool. The best of fleece wool is selling here for 40 cents. Some farmers hold back in hopes of obtaining more. It may possibly rise a little before the year comes round, but that must depend very much upon circumstances not yet known, and at present unforseen.

GREEN PEAS.—We have received from Mr. E. Folsom, of East Monmouth, some excellent green peas, gathered on the 30th of June. They were well filled and plump. This to us is an early crop, especially when raised in the open air during such a cloudy and cold season as the present has been thus far. Mr Folsom, instead of making wry faces at the clouds, and packing up

for Ohio or Illinois, or the Lord knows where, has been combatting our climate, and is busily engaged in cultivating an early variety of crops. By attention to the subject he has obtained an early variety of corn and potatoes. Let others follow his example and we shall soon get into the way of having our garden sauce, corn, &c. as early as they do in any part of New England.

For the Maine Farmer.

RUST IN WHEAT—No. 2.

Mr. Editor—The readers of the "Farmer" are requested to correct some errors which I have noticed in some of my former communications, viz: in No. 13, in the last sentence of my communication, for "probable" read proximate or nearest. In No. 15, 3d line from the bottom, middle column of p. 116, for "should be" read "should not be." In the line of 3d column on said page, for following read flowing.

I now resume my subject. In No. 1, I mentioned the singular appearance I once noticed in the growth of potatoes. I would now add to my remarks that the skins of the first growth of potatoes appeared to be thick and rough, resembling what is mentioned by B. R. in the roots of diseased wheat plants; while the skins on those of the second growth were thin, white and clean. I am aware that the vegetable laws governing the potatoe plant may be too different from those of wheat, to afford good grounds to reason from; but still, I think we may get some hints which may be useful. I mean, by leading us to examine the wheat plant in the various stages of its growth, and ascertaining thereby, the evident effects of heat and cold, drowth and moisture on the general health of the plant. Though I cannot attach the same importance that B. R. does to the first growth of the wheat plant, yet I hardly think it possible to raise a very superior crop if it should be stinted in its first growth, especially if this should be protracted sometime. The fact is, wheat has no time to spare. The laws of its existence are such, that it must "go ahead," be the weather wet or dry, hot or cold. Tho' the season may be long enough to raise two crops in a year, yet wheat sown in the earliest part of the year must come to maturity in a certain period of time, which cannot be much protracted; or the production of the seed MUST fail.

It is worthy also of particular notice that we have the best grain in the coolest seasons. I recollect that in 1816, in Massachusetts, it was remarkably cold during the summer. I reaped abroad considerably that year, as I did for several years. The rye of that year's growth was filled the best that I ever saw it. Wheat was not raised in the vicinity where I lived.—I have heard the same remarked by people who lived in Maine in what is emphatically called the cold seasons; though it was so cold that Indian corn could not come to maturity, yet grain was unusually good. What is the proper inference to be drawn from this? Is it not that the failure of grain is generally caused by too much heat? This in some instances may be occasioned by excessive heat in the atmospheric air. In others, it may be occasioned by heat about the roots, the effect of animal manures in a state of fermentation, or other substances capable of producing the same effect.—It is my opinion that cold alone would never produce rust. I grant that the circulation of the sap, after being impeded by cold, may, by a change of the weather, be excited to brisker motion than it would be by continued warm weather, and thus it may become more liable to disease.

I will notice one thing more in this number. I believe that, in accordance to the doctrine of the respiration and prespiration of plants, the effect of heat and cold, and perhaps other causes operating on the flow of the sap, either exciting it above or reducing it below a healthy medium, produces those obstructions which are the immediate cause of the failure of the seed from this disease. As to the contracted state of the wheat stalk at the lower joint in diseased wheat, I much doubt whether it always attends the disease in question. I wish those who are curious to know facts would observe particularly. J. H. J.

Peru, June 18, 1834.

For the Maine Farmer.

A BAD DISORDER.

Mr. Holmes,—The first time I set foot on the soil of Maine was on the second day of July, 1819. I landed at Bowman's point, below Hallowell just before dark, and spent that night in Hallowell.

Next morning I left that place and took the road to the X Roads, & thence through Readfield to Chesterville, where I spent the 4th of July, it being the Sabbath. The season was remarkably fine. The earth had been refreshed with seasonable showers, and these, attended by very warm weather, had given unusual beauty to the face of the country. I was surprised and delighted to find a country, which had been represented as scarcely habitable on account of its climate and sterility, presenting such a brilliant and almost enchanting display of vegetable life and beauty.

From Chesterville I went to Farmington on the sixth, and on the seventh from thence thro' Wilton, Dixfield, &c. to No 4, now Carthage,—made a short visit there, and thence back through Dixfield, Jay, Livermore, Wayne, &c. to Portland, and thence to Boston by land. As it was my sole business to see the country, I viewed it with a scrutinizing eye. I noticed the grass, the corn, the wheat, and the indications of poverty or plenty, wherever I went.—But these objects were not all. I observed the habits of the people, and heard with attention their expressions and views about the soil and climate of Maine. I found one man, an acquaintance of mine in former days, miserably sick—sick of Maine.

What's the matter? said I. Oh! said he, the winters are so long here—it is so much work, and takes so much time to get hay for our stock. Well, said I, which is the most work, to get hay enough to keep a cow, here, or in Massachusetts, where you formerly lived? Oh, as to that, he thought it would take a less amount of labor in Maine than in Massachusetts. And can you not raise bread stuff as easy? said I. Why, yes, he thought he could, but he wanted to go to Ohio, where cattle would require but little hay, and corn would grow almost spontaneoutly; and as to frost and snow, there is little of that there.

Perhaps, said I, as fine as that country is represented to be, you might find some difficulties there, and formidable ones too. You tell of frost and snow in Maine, and that sometimes crops are injured by the disastrous effects of cold, and cattle eat much fodder in consequence of the long continuance of snow. I never was in Ohio, but have spent three winters in Georgia, which is much farther south. I never saw any snow there but once or twice, and then but a few flakes, and once or twice some very thin ice on the water standing in the road, and yet I have seen on the first morning of April the ground as white with frost as ever I saw it in the state of Massachusetts. The cotton plants which were then up, were of course, killed, being as tender as our pumpkin vines.

Another fact I will just mention. I never tasted any milk or any butter made in that country, fit to eat. Their cows required, or at least, had no hay, nor was there any trouble or expense in pasturing them, as they uniformly ranged in the woods,—and now, my dear friend, could you be so fortunate as to reach that country whose beauties fancy paints in such vivid colors, I doubt not you would miss some valuable priveliges which you here enjoy, and find some difficulties which you now little think of. But alas, the poor man was sick.—He was heart sick. He was sick of getting so much hay—yes, so much hay. Why, how much? Enough to keep one poor old horse, and perhaps two cows. This was the amount of his trouble, in getting hay, and as for corn and grain, I saw little or none growing—of course the frost could not kill them. Alas! alas! the poor sick man! J. H. J.

Peru, June, 1834.

LARGE FLEECES.

Two ewe Cosset sheep belonging to Josiah Orcutt Esq. of Monmouth, have this year sheared 15½ pounds of clean wool, well washed in cold water. The last year, the first time sheared, they had 14 pounds. They are half Merino and half Saxon, and both have lambs this year. They were from the celebrated flock of Elijah Wood, Esq., of Winthrop. **

Method of Dressing Skins practiced in Morocco.—The following account of the method practised in dressing skins in Morocco was transmitted the Zoological Society by W. Willshire, Esq., a Corresponding Member of that Society, in a letter dated Mogadore, May 5, 1833. Its results are stated to be excellent, as regards the preservation and color of the fur, and the flexibility of the pelt.

Wash the skin in fresh water to deprive it of the salt; as soon as this is done, scrape the flesh off, then take two pounds of alum, one quart of buttermilk, and two or three handfuls of barley meal, which mix well together, and lay on the fleshy side of the skin equally; fold up and press it together carefully, and let it lie two days. On the third day take it to the sea side, wash the skin well, and when clean, and free from mixture, hang it up to let the water run from it: then take two pounds of alum finely powdered, and throw or spread it equally on all parts of the skin; again fold up as before, and allow it to lie three days, when it will be in a proper state to dry in the sun, laid flat, without taking away the powder. When it is dry, take a pint or two of fresh water, and sprinkle it upon the skin, and again fold it up carefully for about two hours, to imbibe the water; then lay it on a table, and, after scraping it free from the mixture and flesh, take a sand stone (rather rough) and rub the skin well until it becomes soft and pliable, then hang it in the shade to dry. The process is then complete.

When the skin is perfect, having the head, horns, &c. take off the horns, and fill their cavity with a mixture of equal parts of powdered alum and ashes of charcoal dissolved in water, and expose them two days to the sun. Saturate the trunks of the horns with eight ounces of alum dissolved in water, and fold up with the skin, and apply the same on each occasion when employed in curing the skin. The flesh on the head and jaws to be carefully taken off, filling the same with powdered alum. It should remain in the sun until perfectly dry.

In addition to the foregoing description of the mode used in Morocco, in dressing skins as related by the persons employed by Mr. Willshire, it may be well to observe that the process does not take so long at Mogadore, as Mr. W. has often received back skins of the Aoudad and Leopard on the third or fourth, and never exceeding the fifth day, perfectly cured. Allowance has been made by the dresser, in the foregoing description, for the difference in the climate of London.

The skins of smaller animals must not be subjected to so lengthened a process, or they will become harsh, and the pelt impoverished.

Proceedings of the Zoological Society.

For the Maine Farmer.

APPLE TREES.

I noticed an article in the last Farmer which speaks of the good effect produced by the application of Lime (white-wash) to "old supposed worn out apple trees," the truth of which I do not doubt in the least, having observed its beneficial effects in many instances; and I have often urged its utility upon the attention of my neighbors who own fruit trees. The first experiment of the kind, which I recollect to have witnessed, was made upon an orchard belonging to Stephen Williams, Esq., of Northboro', Mass., several years ago, and a more thrifty promising orchard I never saw. A writer upon the subject says—"This practice, which contributes so essentially to the rapid growth and health of fruit trees, is too little known among our farmers. If an orchard of 200 trees be set out, and one half of them are white-washed every Spring in the month of April, those that are thus treated will be in fine bearing condition two or three years sooner than the rest of the orchard, and will, in the course of four years, be at least twice as large and much more thrifty, the bark or epidermis will retain the fine smooth appearance of a young nursery tree, and will furnish no retreat for caterpillars and other destructive insects."

The writer further states that he had witnessed the success of this experiment for fourteen years, and he fully believes that in addition to the growth of the tree, "the quantity and perfection of the fruit is much improved." The rationale of its operation may be stated thus—Carbon is the principal constituent of wood and is essential to the growth of the tree. The carbonic acid of the atmosphere combines with the lime of the white-wash and forms the carbonate of lime, and is brought into contact with the bark of the tree, by which it is decomposed; the carbon furnishes food for the tree while the oxygen of the carbonic acid is set at liberty in the gaseous form. As soon as the carbonate of lime is by this process decomposed, a fresh dose of carbonic acid combines with the lime and the carbonate of lime is regenerated

By this continued action and reaction, if I may so term it, a constant conducting medium is kept up for the supply of carbon to the tree, until the lime is wholly exhausted.

June 24, 1834. CAROLUS.

For the Maine Farmer.

MR. HOLMES,—I agree with a correspondent in one of the late numbers of the Farmer, in the wish that a part of the columns of your paper should in a particular manner be devoted to the instruction and amusement of the LADIES. It is absolutely and indispensably necessary to our success as an agricultural people, that they should be heart and hand with us. Your correspondent says the Ladies have a decided distaste for the Farmer. I am, however, acquainted with one that thinks differently, and that takes a decided interest in it. Yet I have heard her frequently complain and speak with regret, that there was not more matter in it particularly designed for the instruction of females. I hope this matter will be attended to by your correspondents; and may I not be permitted to inquire if some of the Ladies themselves may not now and then give us something profitable. You have expressed your willingness to introduce their productions to the public. The Ladies, some of them, have talents of the first order. Let them not bury them in the earth, or hide them in a "napkin," but let their lights shine for the encouragement of others.

In short, Mr. Editor, if we ever 'go ahead' the Ladies must go with us. And by the way, is it not best for us men to be a little accommodating. I was once not a little chagrined at one of your would-be-thought very wise and prudent characters. Some ladies were speaking in his presence about some very beautiful flowers they had cultivated. He said with a great deal of gravity he did not think such flowers of any use.

Comment on this,—the man had BUTTONS on the BACK of his coat. J. H. J.

Peru, May 28, 1834.

TO LABORING MEN.

It is an admitted fact that manual labor is the employment most conducive to the happiness, and at the same time most congenial to the health of man. Still there is a fault in the habits of our laboring men to which we invite your attention. That to which we allude may not be general, but that it prevails in a degree is certain. It is the habit of laboring violently for a time until a piece of work is finished, or nearly so, and then relaxing their exertions to recover from the fatigue, and perhaps sickness, occasioned by this imprudent course of conduct. This is ruinous to health and almost fatal to business. Regular, constant labor, without violent exertion, is most profitable, not only because more is accomplished, but because it is done in a better manner. It is the best preservative from diseases, and a certain cure for that worst of all diseases, LAZINESS. The man who labors regularly every day almost invariably enjoys good health. He is not troubled with indigestion, more fashionably called DYSPEPSIA, and the many nameless complaints that afflict the occasional laborer, or him who does not labor at all. Let a lazy man once get in the habit of constant labor, and he will almost forget that he does not love it. There are many who say that they are not able to work constantly, and no doubt they think so. No doubt there are many who really are not. But let us look at the habits of some of these feeble men. They are certain they cannot work every day as some of their neighbors do, for only a few days work, as they work, merely through the planting or haying season, bringing on sickness from which they do not recover for weeks. They receive but little nourishment from their food, nor are they much refreshed by sleep: and who can doubt that they are sick? No one. Nor do we doubt that if very many of those men were to reform their habits they would be much improved, and instead of days of tedious labor, and sleepless nights of pain, they would enjoy all the blessings of health attendant on regular constant employment.

From the Southern Agriculturist.

RULE FOR ASCERTAINING THE QUANTITY OF SHELLED CORN, IN A HOUSE OF ANY GIVEN DIMENSIONS.

December 23, 1833.

In the last number of the Farmer's Register, page 398, a contributer under the signature of "H." proposes "a short and easy rule for ascertaining the number of barrels of shelled corn in any house or crib filled with corn in the ear." This rule is founded upon arithmetical principles, and is, therefore, correct; but in order to render those principles readily applicable among us, where all measurements of corn or other grain are made by the bushel, not by the barrel. I would suggest the following substitute: remarking at the same time that it is nothing but the same rule slightly modified.

RULE.—Having previously levelled the corn in the house, so that it will be of equal depth throughout; ascertain the length, breadth, and depth of the bulk; multiply these dimensions together and their product by 4; then cut off one figure from the right hand of this last product. This will give so many bushels and a decimal of a bushel of shelled corn. If it be required to find the quantity in ear corn, substitute 8 for 4, and cut off one figure as before.

EXAMPLE.—In a bulk of corn in the ear, measuring 12 feet long, 11 feet broad, and 6 feet deep, there will be 316 bushels and 8 tenths of a bushel of shelled corn; or 633 bushels and 6 tenths of a bushel of ear corn.

12	12
11	11
132	132
6	6
792	792
4	8
316,8	633,6

The writer in the Register satisfactorily demonstrates the correctness of his rule; but, perhaps, the following illustration might be acceptable.

In a cubic or solid foot there are 1728 cubic inches; in a bushel 2150⅖ cubic inches. Suppose the solid content of a bulk of ear corn to be 792 cubic feet as in the above example; it is plain if we multiply this sum by 1728, we reduce it to cubic inches; divide this product by 2150 (rejecting the two fifths as unimportant) and we evidently have the number of bushels of ear corn in the bulk, i. e. about 634¼ bushels, or about three bushels more than was obtained by the operation of the rule. But conceive 1728 and 2150 to constitute together a vulgar fraction thus—$\frac{1728}{2150}$; in order to arrive at the true number of bushels, we have multiplied by the numerator 1728, and divided by the denominator 2150. Now the vulgar fraction $\frac{3}{10}$ is a very near appproximation to the fraction $\frac{1728}{2150}$; therefore to multiply by 8 and divide by 10, would produce very nearly the same result; this we have in effect done by multiplying by the decimal 8. The decimal 4, is used when the object is to find the quantity in shelled corn, because that decimal is the half of the decimal 8, and it requires two bushels of ear corn to make one of shelled corn.

It would be proper to remark, that in using those rules, there ought to be half a bushel added for every hundred found, for about that amount of error results from the substitution of the decimals. WM. D. MURRAY.

From the Genesee Farmer.

MANUFACTURE OF SILK.

We copy the following interesting article on this subject, from the *New York Farmer* for May:

From all we have seen and learned, we cannot resist the conclusion that this country will rapidly progress in the manufacture of silk until its own wants are supplied, and perhaps until it finds itself in a condition to compete with other countries to supply the market of the world. In the northern, middle, western and southern States extensive preparations are being made, not only for the growth of the mulberry, but for manufacturing the silk, particularly in some of the New England states. Of this progress our future pages will give an account.

Messrs. Gay & Bottum, of Lisbon, Ct., recently exhibited in this city their apparatus for the manufacture of this article. It was kept in active operation, and consisted of a reel for winding the silk from the cocoon, a winding frame for winding it from the hanks on to spools, or bobbins, a twisting or throwsting machine for doubling and twisting it on to other bobbins, and two looms for weaving. The whole apparatus would occupy a space of twenty feet square, and was made principally of iron, and in the most durable and finished manner. We took down a few notes, which we lay before our readers in the order they were taken.

The reel, which is on the principle of that of G. B. Smith, of Baltimore, consists of a wooden

frame, and wheels of polished iron and brass. It is a very compact and simple machine, doing the work in the most perfect manner. The price of it is fifty dollars; and Mr Gay thinks the part on which the silk is wound should be made of metal to preserve the fibres or threads of the same tension until they become dry. This makes the thread smooth, and less liable to be fritted in the wear. If made of wood, he says the moisture of the silk will cause that part in contact with it to swell and shrink, and thus injure the thread. We should suppose, however, that glass, or thin pieces of metal fastened on the wood, would answer every purpose, and enable him to manufacture them at near one third the price.

On the supposition that the apparatus is moved with water or horse power, for which it is designed, one female will reel one pound of raw silk for weaving, and one and a half or two pounds for sowing. For a hand reel, two females are required to do this quantity. One bushel of cocoons will make one and a quarter pounds of merchantable raw silk, and two ounces of floss silk.

The diameter of the winding part of Mr Gay's reel is not sufficiently large. The larger it is the faster can the silk be reeled. One of these reels will reel for a whole neighborhood, and enable silk growers to produce raw silk that will command from $4 to $5 50 per pound.

The silk is taken from the reel and put on the winding frame, which winds, twists, and, if necessary, doubles the thread at the same operation. One female, on the above supposition that the apparatus is moved by other power, will wind and double two pounds from thirty bobbins in a day. This is for warp—a greater quantity for filling.

The spools are taken from the winding frame and put on the twisting or throwsting machine. One female will attened 50 spindles, producing about one and a half pounds of weaving silk, and two for sewing. After this operation the silk is cleaned by boiling in soap suds about two hours --20 pounds of soap to 100 pounds of silk. It is now colored, which is done in New England principally with vegetable substances, almost entirely of the growth of this country. The silk is superior to that of foreign countries, in the durability of both color and wear. An elderly lady of Lisbon, Ct. has a piece of American silk of lead color, which has been lying about the house for more than twenty years: it is still unfaded and unchanged.

The next operation is weaving on a hand loom. A weaver often a female will produce per day five to six yards of thick vesting, or gros de Naples. Of thinner silks, six to ten yards can be woven. The specimens that we saw were very thick and strong, and were worth three dollars per yard.

Although silk has been manufacturrd in this country for more than fifty years, yet Mr Bottum who has given his attention to it for thirty years, informs us that there are not cocoons raised in the country sufficient to keep three hand looms in operation. If more cocoons were raised, there would be a better market, although they now command from $3 to $3 50 per bushel, of good quality. A farmer can raise one bushel for $2, if he hires all the labor. An orchard will let out for half or more of the cocoons produced. A gentleman in Hartford lets out his orchard for two thirds. One acre of the white mulberry will produce forty pounds of raw silk. Dr Henry Holmes of Hartford, says from fifty to a hundred pounds.

Mr Butler, of New York, calculates the new Chinese mulberry, Morus multicaulis, will produce one hundred pounds. M. B. has 100,000 of these plants.

When the cocoons are first finished by the worms, they are put in shallow baskets, covered with paper, and dried in an oven moderately heated. When taken from the oven the baskets should remain covered until the cocoons become cool, and then they are spread to dry. If they are not immediately spun, they should be put in cotton bags, with a little tobacco sprinkling among them to keep out moths.

Cocoons before they are wound should be sorted into three qualities: poor, or first sort, for sewing silk, will command $4 per pound; next, of fair quality, worth $4 50; best, worth $5 to $5 50, when wound.

American raw silk thus prepared is superior to that of foreigh countries, and will command a better price. Mr Bottum has for two years past bought all American raw silk he could obtain. But on account of the scarcity of the article, he has been obliged to depend principally on imported silk to keep his weaving in operation. He depends on the females of our own country for all the operations except that of weaving; and for this cotton weavers will supply every demand. Much loss and much discuragement have been met with, by depending on foreigners. Mr. B. has used raw silk from Bengal, Canton, and Italy and he prefers American silk, at 10 per cent. higher price. It is brighter, softer, and stronger, by 25 per cent. The Italian is next best for softness.

The whole apparatus exhibited by Messrs Gay & Bottum is principally made of iron, finished in a superior style, and cost about $1000. The greater part of it would last for a century. They will exhibit it in New Haven, on the 15th of May, before the members of the Legislature of Connecticut. They intend also to exhibit it at the Fair of the American institute in this city, in October next. As soon it can conveniently be made, a reel will be exhited at the Agricultural Warehouse, 81 Barclay street. The improvements in the machinery are the result of eighteen years of experiment and experience. Independent of the weaving part, or looms, two hands are required for the moving power. Horse or other power will be requisite in producing work in factories.

From the same paper we copy the following:

Silk from the White and the Chinese Mulberry.--From the information which we have laid before our readers in the volumes of the New York Farmer, they doubtless have become convinced that the Chinese mulberry, Morus multicaulis, has several decided advantages over the Italian white, Morus alba. The only point which remained unsettled was the relative value of the silk. On this we are now enabled to throw some light--amply sufficient, in our view, to settle the relative merits of the species.

At our request Miss Parmentier furnished us with twenty cocoons, the worms of which had been fed on the M. multicaulis. Mr Bottum, an experienced silk manufacturer selected the same number from a quantity of a good quality fed on the M. Alba. He reeled them with his well constructed reel, keeping up the thread as near as possible to fifteen fibres. The cocoons from the M. multicaulis, being thicker made the longest thread. We repeatedly tried the strength of the two threads, and found in every instance that the M. multicaulis would raise 4½ to 4¾ ounces, while that from the M. Alba wobld seldom go as high as 4¼. As it respects brightness and gloss, and every other requisite in good silk, if any difference, it was in favor of the former. On the suppositon that the superiority of the cocoons from the Chinese mulberry is owing to the care with which Miss P. fed and reared her worms, we are on the safe side when we consider them to make silk fully equal to the others. The numerous advantages, then, of the trees themselves, will render it highly expedient, if not indispensable, to cultivate them.

From the Genesee Farmer.

CATTLE—NO. IX.

POLLED OR HORNLESS BREED.

To an ordinary observer, *beauty*, as applied to an ox or a cow, would seem almost paradoxical and yet there are many persons in whom certain peculiarities of form and figure, in these animals, produce the most pleasurable sensations. If *beauty* is a mere matter of taste, depending upon education and association for its definitive attributes, there can be no more reason why an *hornless ox* should not appear beautiful and symetrical to a Scotch lowlander, than that a fat and overgrown maiden, should seem the very acme of beauty to an effeminate Mussulman. To us indeed, an ox or a cow without a horn, seems like a tree without its top, divested of that peculiar characteristic which renders it pleasing and acceptable to the sight; and yet an hornless animal may be, and often is, as useful and as valuable as the more perfect Devon or Durham. But after all, the world is governed more or less by ideas of beauty; and as Ulmus has justly observed, "beauty is a quality that is always highly estimated, and *well paid for*." I am free to acknowledged, that to my unpracticed eye, an hornless ox presents but few attractions, however high it may be estimated in the scale of usefulness or profit.

The *Polled* or *Hornless breed*, seems to have been indigenous to the ancient province of Galloway on the western shores of the lowlands of Scotland. Hence the term "Galloways," as frequently applied to the whole Hornless breed. As I have heretofore remarked, their history is traced to the remotest period of Scotch tradition. Until about the middle of the last century, the Middle Horns, or Kyloes, were the prevailing breed throughout this region, and yet Hornless animals, either the remnant of the *native breed* or an accidental variety, were scattered here and there thoughout the district. Goldsmith supposed the Polled cattle to have been derived originally from the kingdom of Poland, but there is no other evidence of this than his own declaration; while on the contrary, we have every reason to believe they originated, as just described, in the lowlands of Scotland.

But be their origin what it may, they were early discovered to possess intrinsic qualities of a superior order, and some became favorites not only with the Scottish graziers, but with English farmers. They fattened with great ease and economy, attained a large size, and their flesh presented that rich and marbled aspect which is so gratifying to the sight and taste of an epicure. With these characteristics, they soon superseded the native Middle Horns, and had it not been for the sudden appearance and extension of their neighbors the Ayrshire, with all these requisites and that of milking superadded, the Galloways would probably have obtained a decided ascendancy throughout the lowlands.

About the year 1786, the Earl of Selkirk commenced improving the agriculture of Galloway, and his attention was early drawn to this breed of cattle. To him and his sons and their many associates are the Galloways principally indebted for their present improvement. As a breed, Mr. Culley describes them, with the exception of the horns, as resembling very nearly the Long Horns both in color, shape and fattening, though somewhat less in weight. "Their hides seem to be a medium between the Long and Short Horns, and they so fatten upon the most valuable parts, that few cattle sell at a higher price in the Smithfield market."

For a particular description of the characteristic points of the Galloway cattle, I would refer the reader to the 5 number of the present volume of the Farmer, page 35. It will there be seen, that the breadth and straightness of the back, the roundness of the rib and barrel, the fullness and capacity of the chest, the smallness of the bone end other offal, enable them to compete with almost any breed, simply as graziers. But as milkers they bear no comparison with the Ayrshires or Durhams, and yet it is a singular fact, that the present *improved Short Horns* originated from a cross between the old Teeswaters and a Galloway cow. Was it not for their prevailing color, which is black, and their deficiency of horns, the Galloways would probably have taken a more elevated station as an *improved breed*; and even as it is, with these defects, they are in many districts held in the highest estimation. As a breed they have one or two other qualities which are peculiar. They seem wholly incapable of improvement by any foreign cross, though they have imparted to other breeds some essential advantages. Another peculiarity is, the uniform character and excellence of the cattle throughout a given district. While other cattle differ in size and quality, a Galloway bullock selected at haphazzard will prove a fair specimen of the whole breed in that district.

Beside the Galloway, there are several other polled breeds, which were originally derived from the same source, though essentially different in many particulars. The Angus, the Norfolk, and the Suffolk breeds, are all of the Hornless variety each having some qualities peculiar to itself.

The *Angus cattle* are intrinsically the same as the Galloways, though a good judge would readily perceive that they are larger, longer in the leg, thinner in the shoulder, and flatter in the side, and in general, their skins are thinner, smoother,

and the hair much shorter. Their origin is so remote that no account of their introduction to this country can now be obtained. But it is evident that here as well as elsewhere, climate and management have had a powerful influence upon the qualities of the cattle. Although Angushire is much farther north, their size has been increased, their color changed, and their value so enhanced, that they are rapidly spreading throughout the district, and bid fair to supplant the horned cattle for the purposes of grazing.

One of the most spirited and successful breeders of the Angus cattle, is Mr. Watson of Kiellor, from whom was derived the *Kiellor breed*. He has gained on account of them more than one hundred prizes, besides many pieces of plate; and in 1831, he sold a bull for one hundred guineas, and a lot of heifer calves at forty pounds per head. As milkers, they are rather superior to the Galloways, but since their improvement in fattening, even this quality has materially diminished. Some curious facts have been observed in the breeding of *Angus doddies*. It is well attested, that in one instance, a cow chanced to come *into season* while pasturing near a field containing *horned pied cattle*. An ox, white with black spots and *horned*, jumped the fence, and went with the cow until she was brought home to bull; no other horned cattle had any access to the cow, and yet the produce of the following spring was a black and white calf *with horns*. Many other experiments with similar results are well attested, showing that even in these latter days, Jacob's plan of producing ring streaked, speckled and spotted cattle, may be practiced with equal success.

The counties of Norfolk and Suffolk are on the extreme eastern shores of England. From a very early period, the Galloway cattle were prepared for the London market on the pastures of Norfolk and Suffolk, and nearly one half of the beasts which supply that market come from these counties. Thus introduced, some of the Galloways were retained, and became naturalized to the soil and climate. In Norfolk they have enlarged, but not materially improved, though their color is changed from a black to red or pied. They are extensively reared, however, on account of their fattening qualities, for the London market.

In Suffolk, also the Galloways were the progenitors of the present breed of Polled cattle. The *Suffolk dun* was celebrated in every part of England on account of her extraordinary milking qualities; but this color is now discarded. The prevailing and most esteemed colors at the present time are red, red and white, brindled, and a yellowish cream color. The suffolks are larger even than the Norfolks, and fatten with more ease and economy, and reach greater weights; but aside from their excellency as graziers, they are the only Hornless variety which has gained any reputation as *milkers*. The admirers of the Suffolk cow do not admit her inferiority to the very best of the Short Horns, especially when the *quality* of the milk is taken into account. Her milk is exceedingly rich, and the quantity averages from 16 to 32 quarts per day. Mr Mowbry states that for a private family, no breed in England combines so many advantages. "They excel both in quantity and quality of milk; they feed well after they become barren; they are small sized, and *polled* or hornless; the last a great convenience." There are few *Short Horns*, although of superior size, and consuming double the quantity of food, that will yield a larger quantity of milk, to say nothing of the quality.

But there is one important difference between the "improved Short Horns" and the Suffolks. The former is almost always fat, while the latter, if she continues a milker, is invariably lean and ill looking. Where economy and profit are alone sought for, there are perhaps few cows more desirable than the Suffolk.

"Whence she obtained the faculty of yielding so much milk, is a question that no one has yet been able to solve." The Galloways have it not and the Short Horns were not introduced until long after the Suffolk duns were celebrated. Like the Devons, this breed has seemed to increase and improve without any care or attention, and in spite of themselves. How far climate and soil have produced this effect, we are not informed; but as no foreign crosses, not even the Short Horns, have produced any improvement to the breed, we may safely infer, that there is some peculiar *adaptedness* of this *particular breed* to that *particular soil* and *climate*. QUERCUS.

SUMMARY.

NEW-YORK MENAGERIE. Our village was last week visited by *Howe and Co.'s* collection of Animals, that is now being exhibited in this section of the country. Having examined (in another place) this establishment, it may not be improper to say that it is NOT, as many are led to imagine, a catch penny affair. Whoever can afford, during the present times, to pay the small fee required for admission, will receive a full equivalent for his time and his money. The study of Natural objects is at all times full of interest, utility and pleasure. A curiosity in regard to beasts, as well as birds, &c. is early developed in us. Nothing affords a child greater satisfaction than stories, books, and pictures of animals; and much of the success and popularity of those useful publications—*Parley's Magazine—People's Magazine*, and the *Library of Useful Knowledge*, is owing to the spirited engravings and vivid descriptions of subjects belonging to the animal kingdom. But here we have the living originals before us, breathing, moving, and acting out as far as their necessary confinement will allow them, their natural characters. We have here associated together in a small area, a sort of congress of beasts and birds, representatives from the four quarters of the globe, each in his proper person, and each exhibiting, as far as he is permitted, his own powers and talents. The "half reasoning" Elephant, sedate and slow, moves round his ponderous frame, and gives a display of his sagacious and interesting but unwieldy feats. The "patient Camel" and his neighbor, the Dromedary, stand by, reminding you of the Arab—the Desert—the Sirocco, and the whirlwinds which sweep over the immense sea of sands, burying alive whole regiments of adventurous merchants and travellers. One cannot, while examining the structure of the feet of this singular animal, and learning his physical powers of withstanding hunger and thirst, but be struck with the unerring wisdom of the Almighty in designing and adapting him for the peculiar sphere in which he is placed. The stately Ostrich from *Africa* is also on the ground, and is equally well designed for a life in the desert,—and the "pelican of the wilderness" will display to you his enormous bill, and show you how he conveys a fountain from the Ocean to his home for the comfort and refreshment of his young. The Lordly Lion—the Leopard—the Tiger, Panther, and Hyena, will remind you of the jungles of Africa and Asia—will show you their claws and fangs for flesh, and demonstrate to you the danger which "treads on the heel of the traveller" in those benighted regions. The Gnoo or "Horned Horse" will puzzle you to tell what he is, or for what he was made. We believe that he is the first ever exhibited in *America*, and it affords a rare chance for the naturalist or the curious to examine him.

If you have the Hysterics or the Blues, you may shake them off by laughing at the buffoonery and burlesque of his honor, Dandy Jack, who is "at home" on his pony—is perfect in his frolics, and even equals some of his spectators in *gravity* and *whiskers*.

In no establishment of the kind have we ever witnessed so much good order and discipline. The animals are neatly and cleanly kept; seats are provided for the Ladies, and Mr. Whiting, the manager, by his prompt, energetic, and decided manner, preserves the utmost quietness and decorum. He seems admirably calculated for managing such a collection of animals both *quadruped* and *biped*. Polite to those who deserve it, and not slow to find a place for those who are "*ructious*" and "*fighty*." His entering the dens of the Lions and Leopards is not the least interesting part of the exhibition. One cannot help shuddering, to see him shut himself in with those ferocious animals, and kick and cuff them about as you would so many tom-cats. Now playing with them as with a fawning puppy—now laying his whip upon them without mercy—then thrusting his hands into the very jaws of the Lion, and anon tweaking his Lordship's nose and pulling his beard till he yells with anger. But we are telling a long story, when we meant merely to give a passing notice. If you are able, go and see them.

Presidential Nominations. We learn from Washington that the Senate, who had been for some days intently engaged in Executive business, proceeded on Tuesday to pronounce their final decision on some of the most important of the late nominations, and with the following result:

ANDREW STEVENSON, of Virginia, as Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of St. James, *rejected* by a vote of 23 to 22.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BUTLER, of New York, as Attorney General.*confirmed* without opposition.

ROGER BACON TANEY, of Maryland, as Secretary of the Treasury, *rejected* by a vote of 28 to 18.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—The steam boat David Brown, which arrived at this port on Wednesday from Charlestown, brings intelligence of a furious hurricane, with which a portion of that State has been visited. Violent storms have been unusually common at the South this season. The following is a hasty account of the most recent:

"Greenville District has been visited with a most terrific storm of rain, hail and wind. The destruction of crops, fences, and timber was immense. The storm seemed to have swept over a space of country about one mile in width and fourteen or fifteen in length. A yound lady, daughter of Zachariah Benson, of Greenville, while passing from the house to the kitchen, with a smoothing iron in her hand, was struck with lightning, and immediately killed. She was struck on the head, her bonnet torn to atoms, her hair scorched, skin not broken, and the fluid passed immediately down her feet in the earth, making a hole the size of a man's hand in the ground. A horse was killed and a number of live stock; a negro holding a horse was severely stunned, but not injured.

"In Yorkville the crops bore a bright and cheering prospect; a rich harvest was expected. Corn selling at one dollar per bushel."

Railroad Disaster.—Three fatal accidents have recently occurred on the line of the Pennsylvania Railroad over the Alleghany Mountains. In the first instance, a traveller named Joshua Taylor was killed by the car in which he was breaking loose, and running down an inclined plane with frightful velocity, and finally striking a post with such force as to throw him the distance of *sixty* feet, alighting on an inclined wall, and rolling thence into the Conemaugh.

In the second instance, a death was occasioned by two cars coming violently in contact, neither being willing it would seem, to turn out and wait for the other to pass.—Every person connected with the cars instantly cleared themselves on observing the threatening danger; but a passenger named Michael Gallan, had not presence of mind to leap from the car, and was crushed in the contact.

In the third case, a woman was run over by a car in descending a plane.

In the two first instances, the calamity was unquestionably the consequence of negligence or thoughtlessness on the part of those who manage the cars, and might have been easily avoided.

The Meteoric Phenomena.—Professor Olmstead of New Haven, has afforded an ingenious hypothesis to the last number of Silliman's Journal, on the subject of the extraordinary shower of meteors during the last fall, November 13.

He considers them a nebulous body or cluster, moving in an orbit around the sun, within that of the earth. He estimates the time of their annual revolution at 182 days. At the time when seen, some of them must have approached so near the earth as to fall within our atmosphere, which caused their combustion, and thus rendered them visible. It is a singular fact that the great meteoric phenomena in 1799, appeared Nov. 12th, and most of these sublime exhibitions in the movement of the heavenly bodies are said to have occurred in this month.

Sudden Death.—In Susquehanna township, Dauphin Co. Pa. on Thursday of last week, Isaac Diller and John Johnson were both stricken almost instantaneously by the hand of death. The former fell down in convulsions while at the plough. The latter carried him home, and complained immediately of sickness, fell down and shortly after expired. They both died within an half an hour.

Wanton Villany.—The office of the New Orleans Bulletin was entered on the night of the 7th inst by some scoundrel, who did all the mischief, in his power by upsetting cases, defacing forms, &c. throwing the whole office into what is technically called *pi*. As the culprit was of course a printer, the Typographical Society have offered a reward of fifty dollars for his detection.

Mr. *Joel Brown*, of Violet, Fairfield Co. Ohio, was struck by lightning in the open air on the 4th inst. and killed instantly. It is remarkable some silver which was in his pantaloons' pocket at the time of the accident could not befound afterwards.

Not so bad.—"We are happy to learn," as the phrase is that the most ridiculously absurd story lately swallowed by nearly all our cotemporaries of a young man named Wire having hung him-

self at Detroit because a certain young lady would not go to church with him is utterly without foundation. There is a mighty tide of emigration setting towards Michigan, but the people are not yet so plentiful there that they can afford to spare them on such slight pretences; and though there are a great many simpletons among them, there are none quite so green as the story in question would make them.

From Liberia. The schooner Edgar, arrived at this port on Thursday, bringing dates from Liberia on the 12th of May.

Her intelligence is, in one respect, melancholy. Rev. O. S. Wright, Methodist Missionary, Rev. Mr Laird and wife, and Rev. John Cloud, Presbyterian Missionary, had fallen victims to the fevers of that climate. The health of the Colonists, however, was generally good; and but two of the emigrants who went out in the Jupiter had perished. The trade and business of the Colony was essentially prosperous, and its influence and sphere of usefulness extending in every direction. The Agent of the Maryland Colonization Society has proceeded to Gape Palmas, with twenty men to commence the proposed settlement, where they will meet with an enthusiastic welcome from the natives. A lighthouse is soon to be erected on Cape Mesurado, and two houses are now built at Monrovia for the reception of emigrants. The foundation of a new stone Presbyterian Church has been laid, and a steam saw mill will shortly be constructed.

Melancholy Occurrence.—Extract of a letter to the editors of the Philadelphia Commercial Herald, dated Louisville, (Ky) June 12. A shocking occurrence took place here last week. A Mr. C. married Miss Buckner last week, a beautiful and interesting woman, of one of our most respectable families. On that evening Mrs Buckner (the mother of the bride) had a large quantity of custards made, and sent them to the house of her married children. On Sunday Mrs Foster, her daughter, was taken ill, and died in a few hours. While the company were assembling for her funeral, a daughter of her's became suddenly ill, and the funeral was postponed, that both might be buried together. Before this took place, Mrs. Buckner died; and, one after the other, eight have died, and nine more are dangerously ill. Poison having been suspected, the servants are all in prison, but there is no evidence, external or internal, to prove the charge. The contents of the stomach show no appearance of poison. The symptoms in all attacked resemble those of Asiatic cholera; yet no one else in town has been attacked, and not one of that devoted family who have avoided the custard.—All who have ate of it have died or are ill. The physicians and magistrates are all in alarm and bustle, and no two people seem to agree in opinion as to the true cause of this melancholy visitation.

Alexandria, La. 12.

Most horrible occurrence.—On Monday night, the 3d inst, at Bergers Hotel, in the town of Natchitoches a most unprecedented and tragical occurrence took place; *murder most foul* we might truly call it, but for the strong presumption that the perpetrator was in a state of mental alienation. His name is *Worthington*, a citizen, we are informed, of Arkansas, a man of genteel exterior, and more than ordinary intelligeuce.

On the fatal night alluded to, he and another gentleman who came to the place with him, were lodging in the same bed, in a room containing three or four other beds, all occupied, and some of them containing two persous. It was about 3 o'clock, when all was silent and dark as the chambers of death, that Worthington rose from his pillow, armed with a large and formidable weapon, (sometimes called an 'Arkansas knife,') and commenced an indiscriminate attack upon his room mates. A gentleman from Point Coupee, whose name we do not know, was stabbed to the heart and closed his eyes forever, perhaps without a struggle! An elderly gentleman from Mobile received a dangerous wound. After wounding two others in the same room, one of them his bedfellow, Worthington rushed out, probably with the intention of making his escape, but mistaking the way, as is supposed, he ascended another flight of stairs, which led to the garret, where two negro men were sleeping on the floor. He encountered them in crossing the room, and dealt a blow to each, wounding both, and one of them severely. He then descended to the second story, sprang from the gallery, and fled; but in consequence of an injury in one of his ankles, occasioned by his leaping from such a height, he had only proceeded about two miles, when he was overtaken. At first he manifested a disposition to resist his pursuers; but upon their threatening to shoot him, he surrendered, and was taken to town and delivered up to the civil authorities. We have not learned the result of the investigation.

Our informant states, that when apprehended, Worthington appeared to be in his right mind, and not only rational, but plausible in conversation. He insisted, however that there had been a combination against his life, and that his bed fellow had tried to strangle him with the sheets! The only clue we have discovered, which may reveal the true cause of this lamentable tragedy, is in the statement, that Worthington is a man of intemperate habits. Those who are tampering in fancied security, with spirituous liquors, may deduce an instructive moral from this wretched man. No doubt he was once a 'moderate drinker'—and the *social glass* was the germ of his present misery and degradation, as well as of the more than savage butchery he has committed!

It has often been said, that the elements of fire and water are good servants, but bad masters. Not so with alcohol! it is not only a ruthless tyrant when it obtains the mastery, but it is from the very beginning an unprofitable and treacherous servant.—*Arkansus Gazette.*

Toads in Gardens. The quantity of insects these reptiles will destroy in a garden is immense as their digestion is very rapid. An English Horticulturist writes that he has preserved and protected toads on his place for more than twenty years; his reason for commencing it, originated from the circumstance of a friend observing his hop beds so much infested with insects advised him to introduce toads as a certain remedy, and to his great surprise he observed one of these reptiles devouring ants as fast he could count them. From this time I have observed, says he, with satisfaction, that wherever toads are encouraged, ants will disappear. Another writer under the signature of 'H. S.' says, "I have known common frame for cucumbers and melons completely cleared of ants which infested them, by merely confining a toad in them." When trees are infested with ants, it is recommended to confine the toads behind a board set on one edge, until they become habituated to the spot.

Tho Natches Courier announces the complete success of the effort to obtain an oil from cotton seed which should answer a better purpose for burning than sperm oil. Used as lamp oil; it is said to burn beautifully, giving an excellent light without smoke, and free from any perceptible smell.

LOVE AND MATRIMONY. — *We* attended McDONALD CLARKE'S Lectures on these subjects, the other evening, and would not have been absent for ten times the price of admission: it was throughout thickly studded with truth & beauty. *We* have heard him called the Mad Poet; this is idle—or if not, there is more "method in his madness" than in the conduct of thousands who are counted sane. We subjoin the following remarks of his in relation to old bachelors, as proof of what we assert:

"In the vast flower-field of human affection, the old bachelor is the very scare-crow of happiness, drives away the little birds of love, that come to steal the hemlock seeds of loneliness and despair. *W*here is there a more pitiable object in the world than a man who has no amiable woman interested in his welfare! How dismal does his desolate room appear, when he comes home at night, wet and hungry, and finds a cold hearth—a barren table—and a lonely pillow, that looks liks the urn of every earthly enjoyment!! See the sick old bachelor in the dark afternoon of life, when his heart is sinking to its sundown! Not a solitary star of memory gleams over the dusk of his opening grave — no weeping wife, to bend, like a blessing, over his dying bed — no fond daughter, to draw his chilly hand into the soft pressure of hers, and warm his icy blood with the reviving fires of unfailing affection—no manly boys, to link his breaking name with the golden chain of honorable society, and bind his history in the vast volume of the world he is leaving forever. He has eat—and died!—and earth is glad she's got rid of him; for he had done little else, but cram his soul into the circumference of a sixpence, and no human being, but his washerwoman, will breathe a sigh at his funeral"

MARRIAGES.

In Portland, Mr James N. Hall to Miss Emily Jane Purington.

In Machias, Col. Wm. Burnham to Miss Mary Sprowl; the occasion was celebrated by the ringing of bells and the firing of cannon.

In Topsham, James KcKeen, M. D. to Miss Octavia, daughter of Wm. Frost, Esq.

DEATHS.

In Rockingham co. N. C. Mr James Saunders, aged 120, a native of Va. *He* was born in the latter part of the reign of Queene Anne of *E*ngland; and lived to see the four Georges, her successors to the throne, "gathered to the tomb of their fathers."

*I*n Boston, Mr Solomon Hewes, of *A*ugusta, aged 67.

BRIGHTON MARKET—MONDAY, June 23.

(*R*eported for the Boston Daily Advertiser & Patriot.

*A*t Market this day, 322 *B*eef Cattle, (including 50 unsold last week;) 710 Sheep; 18 Cows and Calves, and 150 Swine.

PRICES. *Beef Cattle.*—The cattle generally were not of so good a quality as last week, but about the same prices were obtained for the goodness. We quote prime at $6; good at 5 25 a 5 75; thin at 4 50 a 5.

Cows and Calves—We noticed sales at 23, 25, 27, 30 and $40.

Sheep.—We did not obtain sufficient knowledge to give prices.

Swine—Most of those at market were small, and were sold without weighing.

LIST OF LETTERS

*R*emaining in the Post Office at Winthrop, July 1, 1834.

Alden *A*ustin	Samuel King
*R*oland Briggs	*B*enj. Kimball, Jr.
Ruben *B*ranerd	Jno. Kimball
Miss L. Berry	Thomas N. Lord
Lavina Chandler	Otis L. Macomber
Alpheus M. Chandler	Martha L. Mitchell
Luther Cooly	Benj. Packard
Nathaniel Dolton	Nathan Packard
Daniel McDuffie	Nathaniel Page
Hannah Dicker	Thos. S. Pullen
Gideon Dexter	John *R*emick
Joseph *F*owler	S. M. *R*ice (2)
John E. Follet	Benson Torsey
Betsey Freeman	Hannah Tilton
Harriet E. Fales	David Warren
Robert N. *H*opkins	Amos *W*oodward
Joseph Heselton	Joshua Wing
Jno. S. Jackson	Alexander Wing
Benj. H. Joy.	Elijah Wood
Stephen Jones	

GEO. W. STANLEY, *Post Master.*

POETRY.

For the Maine Farmer.

THE ROSE.

PART FIRST.

I saw by the path near the traveller's tread
A rose in its glory; its charms were all spread
To rival aurora's bright blushing;
Its leaves were all brightness enamelled with green—
The pride of the gardener—of flowers the bright queen—
And dew-drops profusely were gushing.

The rambler oft viewed its ephemeral bloom;
The hand of the violent made it a tomb
And rifled its sweets and its glory;
Its beauty was sullied, and broken its stem—
None basked in its brightness or fragrance again—
None mourned o'er its fate or its story.

So Woman I've marked in the glittering throng
Where mirth led the festive with music and song,
And pleasures gay votaries were hieing;
The glitter of tinsel, the trappings of wealth,
The bloom of her youth and the rose bud of health
In brightness and beauty were vieing.

The eye of the sycophant marked her his prey,
The voice of the syren allured her astray
From innocence, reason, and duty.
If blighted be virtue and purity's flower
Ah! what will e'er renovate Woman's bright bower?
Who bask in her charms and her beauty?

EOLIUS.

For the Maine Farmer.

WHAT A FARMER WANTS.

A Farmer wants a stable mind,
A purpose sure and steady,
To patient industry inclined,—
For business always ready.

Good careful habits well infixed,
A judgment acting clearly,
To sift out truths with error mixed
Though it should cost him dearly.

He wants a penetrating eye
That he may quick discover
If any business goes awry
That he's presiding over.

He wants a mind that's wide awake,
A quickness of invention,
Abounding much in thoughtful care
And prudent circumspection.

He wants a neat and prudent wife
Who, when he earns, can save it,
Who kindly sooths the cares of life,—
(Best gift of him who gave it.)

He wants a snug and tidy farm
And health and strength together,
A house and barn to keep all warm
And dry, in rainy weather.

Heaven's blessing then must crown the whole,
Or all his hopes are blasted;
But with this resting on his soul,
The purest joys are tasted.

He then enjoys a bliss unknown
To them, the world call greatest;
Known only to the good alone,
The earliest and the latest.

Peru, April, 1834. J. H. J.

MISCELLANY.

A SKETCH.

When our affections are once fixed on an object, it is in vain to attempt to banish it from our memory. We may flee from the scenes of our blighted hopes and unreciprocated affections, in the hope that time and absence will obliterate from our minds the image of our loved one--but in moments of reflection, when the thought of home and the dear ones we left behind crosses our bewildered imagination, we think of her we once loved, and weep at our own desolation. The profligate libertine and the cold hearted philosopher may smile at the idea of LOVE. I envy not their principles—I care not for their sneers. This is the magic influence in lovely woman, that twines itself around our hearts and enchants our senses; let the spell be broken—our fondly cherished prospects blighted, and our hearts become seared and cold as the ice-clad mountain.

Edward Delancy was a noble youth, and ill-deserved the fate that befel him. He possessed a mind richly cultivated, and an education far superior to his years. He was about seventeen years of age, when he became acquainted with Eliza Delmont. She was a young lady of rare accomplishments, and extremely beautiful. She was idolized by Edward, and his feelings appeared to be reciprocated by her, she was young, had seen little of the world, and consequently her mind was not sufficiently matured to realize the solemnity of her engagement. She thought she loved Edward, nor did she believe there was the being on earth that could supplant his image in her heart. Had she never left the bowers of peace under her own parental roof, her affections would have remained firm, and Edward would have remained happy.

She had often been solicited by her aunt, who resided in New York, to spend the summer with her, and at length was prevailed upon to comply. It was indeed hard, very hard for the young lovers to separate—it was like tearing the only living tendril from their hearts—yet they would soon meet again—and then, they could write often and thus hear from each other. After renewing vows of eternal love and constancy, they parted.

Edward felt desolate indeed; the only amusement that occupied his attention was in writing to the fond object of his heart. Eliza had now been absent nearly a month, and Edward had received no letter. He became impatient—what could it mean?--She was in health, for her parents had received several communications from her in which she expressed her delight in her new situation—but she never mentioned even the name of Edward--had forgotten him in the society of the foppish coxcombs of the city? Impossible, he thought. But to remain in this horrid suspense was worse to be endured, than a knowledge of the truth, though it came in its most hideous shape--he therefore determined to visit her and know his fate. Accordingly, in less than two months from the time of Eliza's departure, Edward was on his way to New York. On ringing a bell a servant came to the door, of whom he inquired if Miss Delmont was within. He was answered in the affirmative and ushered into the parlor, which was fitted up in the most splendid style. In a few moments Eliza entered—but how altered--was it possible that this proud and haughty being arrayed in all the gaudy finery of a princess, was the once innocent and lovely Eliza?—

"I did not think of seeing you so soon," said she, with a coldness that chilled the heart of Edward.

"Nor would you have seen me," replied Edward, "had I heard from you since your departure. Why, Eliza, why have you not written me?"

"Why, indeed, I have been so much engaged since I have resided here, that I could scarcely find time to write my parents much less my acquaintances."

"Acquaintances! Eliza you kill me with your cold indifference. Am I not dearer to thee than a common acquaintance? Have you not sworn to love me through weal and through woe?--have you so soon forgotten that sacred vow?"

"'Twas rashly made," said she--"at a time when passion held predominance to reason. Now, I would have you think no more of me—I can never be yours."

"Then farewell! I ask not your hand unaccompanied by your heart. May you bestow it on some one who will render you happy, even as you have rendered me miserable—and may no sting of remorse, nor pang of conscience for the past e'er enter thy bosom to mar thy peace of mind. Farewell, forever."

He returned to his native home—but the light and buoyant spirit of youth had given place to a deep and settled melancholy; his proud soul scorned to bend beneath the weight of his sorrow, yet it was evident his peace of mind had fled forever. He soon left the land of his nativity to seek for happiness in a foreign country, and fell a victim to an insalubrious climate.

But where is Eliza? Is she happy? Go ask yon polished marble, for 'tis all that now remains to tell her sad story. For a while she sported in coquettish gaiety among the city belles, but shortly fell beneath the cruel wiles of a perfidious libertine. She died of—a broken heart.

Gumption.—When I see a young mechanic, who wants a good wife, that can make a pudding spit a turkey, and nurse his babes, dangling after a piece of affectation, because she has been to a dancing school, and can play on a piano, I guess he has not much gumption.

NOTICE.

CAME into the enclosure of the subscriber, on the 20th ult., a light red COW, apparently 5 years old—whitish tail—short horns. The owner may have her by proving property and paying charges.

CONSIDER STURTEVANT.

Winthrop, June 21, 1834.